

House Study Bill 581 - Introduced

SENATE/HOUSE FILE _____
BY (PROPOSED SECRETARY OF
STATE BILL)

A BILL FOR

1 An Act requiring that absentee ballot return envelopes be
2 conspicuously marked with county commissioner of elections
3 receipt and postmark requirements.
4 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF IOWA:

1 Section 1. Section 53.17, subsection 2, Code 2011, is
2 amended to read as follows:

3 2. a. In order for the ballot to be counted, the return
4 envelope must be received in the commissioner's office before
5 the polls close on election day or be clearly postmarked by an
6 officially authorized postal service not later than the day
7 before the election and received by the commissioner not later
8 than noon on the Monday following the election.

9 b. Return envelopes shall be conspicuously marked to provide
10 voters with notice of the requirements of this subsection. The
11 state commissioner of elections shall adopt rules to implement
12 this paragraph.

13 EXPLANATION

14 This bill requires that all absentee ballot return envelopes
15 be marked conspicuously to give notice to voters that in
16 order for the absentee ballot to be counted the ballot must
17 be received before the polls close on election day or be
18 postmarked by the day before the election and received by the
19 county commissioner of elections not later than noon on the
20 Monday following the election. The state commissioner of
21 elections shall adopt rules to implement this requirement.